

RETIREMENT FACILITIES

523D.1 Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "*Commissioner*" means the commissioner of insurance or the deputy appointed under section 502.601.
2. "*Continuing care*" means housing together with supportive services, nursing services, medical services, or other health related services, furnished to a resident, regardless of whether or not the lodging and services are provided at the same location, with or without other periodic charges, and pursuant to one or more contracts effective for the life of the resident or a period in excess of one year, including mutually cancelable contracts, and in consideration of an entrance fee.
3. "*Continuing care retirement community*" means a facility which provides continuing care to residents other than residents related by consanguinity or affinity to the person furnishing their care.
4. "*Entrance fee*" means an initial or deferred transfer to a provider of a sum of money or other property made or promised to be made as full or partial consideration for acceptance of a specified individual in a facility if the amount exceeds either of the following:
 - a. Five thousand dollars.
 - b. The sum of the regular periodic charges for six months of residency.
5. "*Facility*" means the place or places in which a provider undertakes to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services to an individual.
6. "*Living unit*" means a room, apartment, cottage, or other area within a facility set aside for the exclusive use or control of one or more identified residents.
7. "*New construction*" means construction of a new facility or the expansion of an existing facility if the expansion involves an increase in the number of living units in excess of twenty-five percent.
8. "*Provider*" means a person undertaking through a lease or other type of agreement to provide care in a continuing care retirement community or senior adult congregate living facility, even if that person does not own the facility.
9. "*Resident*" means an individual, sixty years of age or older, entitled to receive care in a continuing care retirement community or a senior adult congregate living facility.
10. "*Senior adult congregate living facility*" means a facility which provides senior adult congregate living services to residents other than residents related by consanguinity or affinity to the person furnishing their care.
11. "*Senior adult congregate living services*" means housing and one or more supportive services furnished to a resident, with or without other periodic charges, in consideration of an entrance fee.
12. "*Supportive services*" includes but is not limited to one or any combination of the following services: laundry, maintenance, housekeeping, emergency nursing care, activity services, security, dining options, transportation, beauty and barber services, health care, and personal care, including personal hygiene, eating, bathing, dressing, and supervised medication administration.

89 Acts, ch 217, §1; 91 Acts, ch 205, §11

523D.2 Application of chapter.

This chapter applies to a provider who executes a contract to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services in a facility, or extend the term of an existing contract to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services in a facility, if the contract requires or permits the payment of an entrance fee to a person, and any of the following apply:

1. The facility is or will be located in this state.
2. The provider or a person acting on the provider's behalf solicits the contract within this state for a facility located in this state and the person to be provided with continuing care or senior adult congregate living services under the contract resides within this state at the time of the solicitation.

89 Acts, ch 217, §2; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §32

523D.2A Annual certification.

On or before March 1 of each year, a provider shall file a certification with the commissioner in a manner and according to requirements established by the commissioner. The certification shall be accompanied by a one hundred dollar administrative fee. The certification shall attest that according to the best knowledge and belief of the attesting party, the facility administered by the provider is in compliance with the provisions of this chapter, including rules adopted by the commissioner or orders issued by the commissioner as authorized under this chapter. The attesting person may be any of the following:

1. A person serving as the president or chief executive officer of a corporation.
2. A person acting as the general partner of a limited partnership.
3. A person acting as the general partner of a limited liability partnership.
4. A person acting in a fiduciary capacity or as a trustee on behalf of a provider.
5. A person who is a manager of a limited liability company.

2004 Acts, ch 1104, §33

523D.3 Disclosure statement.

1. At the time of, or prior to, the execution of a contract to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services, or at the time of, or prior to the provider's acceptance of part or all of the entrance fee by or on behalf of a prospective resident, whichever occurs first, the provider shall deliver a disclosure statement to the person, and to the person's personal representative if one is appointed, with whom the contract is to be entered into. Unless incorporated by reference, in whole or in part, the disclosure statement shall not constitute part of the contract between the resident and provider. The disclosure statement shall contain all of the following information unless the information is in the contract, a copy of which must be attached to the statement:

- a. The name and business address of the provider and a statement of whether the provider is a partnership, corporation, or other legal entity.
- b. The names and business addresses of the officers, directors, trustees, managing or general partners, and

any person having a ten percent or greater equity or beneficial interest in the provider and a description of such person's interest in or occupation with the provider.

c. With respect to each person covered by paragraph "b", and if the facility will be managed on a day-to-day basis by a person identified pursuant to paragraph "b", or with respect to the proposed manager, the following information:

(1) A description of the business experience of the person, if any, in the operation or management of similar facilities.

(2) The name and address of any professional service, or other entity in which the person has, or which has in the person, a ten percent or greater interest and which has provided goods, leases, or services to the facility of a value of five hundred dollars or more within the prior twelve months or which has contracted to provide goods, leases, or services to the facility of a value of five hundred dollars or more within a year, including a description of the goods, leases, or services and their actual or anticipated cost to the facility or provider.

(3) A description of any matter resulting in the person's conviction of a felony or a plea of nolo contendere to a felony charge, or a description of any matter where the person was found to be liable or enjoined in a civil action by final judgment if the felony or civil action involved fraud, embezzlement, fraudulent conversion, misappropriation of property, or a similar felony involving theft or dishonesty.

(4) A description of any matter in which the person is subject to a currently effective injunctive or restrictive order of a court, or a description of any matter within the past five years where the person has had a state or federal license or permit suspended or revoked as a result of an action brought by a governmental agency of this or any state or the division of insurance, arising out of or relating to business activity or health care, including, without limitation, actions affecting a license to operate a foster care facility, health care facility, retirement home, home for the aged, or facility licensed under this chapter or a similar law of another state.

d. A statement, if applicable, containing the following:

(1) Whether the provider is or ever has been affiliated with a for-profit organization or with a religious, charitable, or other nonprofit organization.

(2) The nature of the affiliation.

(3) The extent to which the affiliate organization is responsible for the financial and contractual obligations of the provider.

(4) The provision of the federal Internal Revenue Code, if any, under which the provider or affiliate is exempt from the payment of federal income tax.

e. The location and description of the physical property or properties of the facility, existing or proposed, and, to the extent proposed, the estimated completion date or dates, whether or not construction has begun, and the contingencies subject to which construction may be deferred.

f. The services provided or proposed to be provided under contracts for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services at the facility, including the extent to which medical care is furnished. The disclosure statement shall clearly state which services are included in basic contracts and which services are made available at or by the facility at extra charge.

g. A description of all fees required of residents, including the entrance fee and periodic charges, if any. The description shall include the manner by which the provider may adjust periodic charges or other recurring fees and the limitations on such adjustments, if any.

h. The provisions which have been made or will be made, if any, to provide reserve funding or security to enable the provider to fully perform its obligations under contracts to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services at the facility, including the establishment of escrow accounts, trusts, or reserve funds, together with the manner in which the funds will be invested and the names and experience of persons who will make the investment decisions.

i. Certified financial statements of the provider, for all parts of an operation covered by the contract, including the health center or nursing home portion of the continuing care retirement community, if those services are included in the contract, but the disclosure statement may exclude services or operations not provided to residents as senior adult congregate living services under the contract, which shall include the following:

(1) A balance sheet as of the end of the two most recent fiscal years.

(2) Income statements of the provider for the two most recent fiscal years or the shorter period of time the provider has been in existence.

j. If operation of the facility has not yet commenced, a statement of the anticipated source and application of the funds used or to be used in the purchase or construction of the facility, including the following:

(1) An estimate of the cost of purchasing or constructing and equipping the facility, including related costs such as financing expense, legal expense, land costs, occupancy development costs, and all other similar costs the provider expects to incur or become obligated for prior to the commencement of operations.

(2) A description of any mortgage loan or other long-term financing intended to be used for the financing of the facility, including the anticipated terms and costs of the financing.

(3) An estimate of the total entrance fees to be received from or on behalf of residents at or prior to commencement of operation of the facility.

(4) An estimate of the funds, if any, anticipated to be necessary to fund start-up losses and provide reserve funds to assure full performance of the obligations of the provider under contracts for the provision of continuing care or senior adult congregate living services.

(5) A projection of estimated income from fees and charges other than entrance fees, showing individual rates presently anticipated to be charged and including a description of the assumptions used for calculating the estimated occupancy rate of the facility and the effect on the income of the facility of government subsidies for health care services, if any, to be provided pursuant to contracts for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services.

(6) A projection of estimated operating expenses of the facility, including a description of the assumptions used in calculating the expenses and separate allowances, if any, for the replacement of equipment and furnishings and anticipated major structural repairs or additions.

(7) Identification of any assets pledged as collateral for any purpose.

(8) An estimate of annual payments of principal and interest required by a mortgage loan or other long-term financing.

k. Other material information concerning the facility or the provider required by the division of insurance or which the provider wishes to include.

l. The cover page of the disclosure statement shall state, in a prominent location and typeface, the date of the

disclosure statement.

m. A copy of the standard form or forms of contract for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services used by the provider, attached as an exhibit to each disclosure statement.

n. A description of transactions in which the provider obtains real or personal property or construction services from any of the following:

(1) The developer of the facility, or a person who is under the control of the developer.

(2) If the provider is a business entity, any person holding an executive position in the business entity, including but not limited to a member of a board of directors or an officer of a corporation, a manager of a limited liability company, a general partner of a limited partnership, or a trustee of a trust.

(3) If the provider is a business entity, any person who holds a ten percent or greater equity or beneficial interest in the business entity.

(4) Any person who directly or indirectly by acting through one or more intermediaries controls management decisions of the facility.

A transaction shall include each purchase or lease of real property or personal property by the provider, and any construction services provided to the provider. The description shall include transactions which have occurred or which are planned to occur. The description shall also include whether the terms of the transaction were or will be on terms which are at least as favorable to the provider as those terms which would be generally available from an unaffiliated third party.

2. The provider shall prepare an annual disclosure statement which shall contain the information required by this chapter for the initial disclosure statement. The annual disclosure statement shall also be accompanied by a narrative describing:

a. Any material differences between the pro forma cash flow projection prepared pursuant to this chapter as part of the most recent annual disclosure statement and the actual results of operations during the fiscal year, if the material differences substantially affect the financial safety or soundness of the community.

b. A revised pro forma cash flow projection for the next fiscal year.

3. The provider shall prepare the annual disclosure statement not later than five months following the end of the provider's fiscal year. The provider shall retain a record of each annual disclosure statement prepared under this section for at least five years.

4. If an amendment is prepared pursuant to subsection 5, the provider shall deliver a copy of the amendment or the amended disclosure statement to a prospective resident and to a prospective resident's personal representative if one is appointed prior to the provider's acceptance of part or all of the entrance fee or the execution of the continuing care or senior congregate living services contract by the prospective resident.

5. The provider may amend its current annual disclosure statement at any other time if, in the opinion of the provider, an amendment is necessary to prevent the disclosure statement and annual disclosure statement from containing any material misstatement of fact or omission to state a material fact required to be included in the statement. The amendment or amended disclosure statement shall be kept with the records of the provider's annual disclosure statements. The provider shall deliver a copy of the amendment to a resident or prospective resident and a personal representative of a resident or prospective resident in the same manner as the annual disclosure statement.

89 Acts, ch 217, § 3; 90 Acts, ch 1168, § 54; 91 Acts, ch 205, § 12, 13; 92 Acts, ch 1078, § 10; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §34, 35

523D.4 False information.

1. A provider shall not make, publish, disseminate, circulate, or place before the public, or cause, directly or indirectly, to be made, published, disseminated, circulated, or placed before the public, in a newspaper or other publication, or in the form of a notice, circular, pamphlet, letter, or poster, or over any radio or television station, or in any other way, an advertisement, announcement, or statement of any sort containing any assertion, representation, or statement which is untrue, deceptive, or misleading.

2. A provider shall not publish, disseminate, circulate, or deliver to any person or place before the public, or cause, directly or indirectly, to be published, disseminated, circulated, or delivered to any person or placed before the public, a financial statement which does not meet generally accepted accounting principles.

89 Acts, ch 217, §4; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §36

523D.5 New construction.

1. *Prerequisite information.* A provider shall not enter into a contract to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services that applies to a living unit that is part of a new facility or proposed expansion that is or will be located in this state unless the provider has prepared or acquired all of the following information:

a. A description of the new facility or the proposed expansion, including a description of the goods and services that will be offered to prospective residents.

b. A statement of the financial resources of the provider available for this project.

c. A statement of the capital expenditures necessary to accomplish this project.

d. A statement of financial feasibility for the new facility or proposed expansion which includes a statement of future funding sources and shall identify the qualifications of the person or persons preparing the study.

e. A statement of the market feasibility for the new facility or proposed expansion which identifies the qualifications of the person or persons preparing the study.

f. If the new facility or proposed expansion offers a promise to provide nursing or health care services to residents in the future pursuant to contracts effective for the life of the resident or a period in excess of one year in consideration for an entrance fee, an actuarial forecast which identifies the qualifications of the actuary or actuaries preparing the forecast.

g. Copies of the escrow agreements executed pursuant to this chapter or proof that an escrow is not required.

2. Determination of feasibility.

a. For an expansion of an existing facility, the determination of feasibility shall be based on consolidated information for the existing facility and the proposed expansion.

b. For a new facility, not part of an existing facility that will be constructed in more than one stage or phase, the initial stage or phase must evidence feasibility independent of any subsequent stage or phase and contain all of the facilities or components necessary to provide residents with all of the services and amenities promised by the provider.

3. *Construction.* New construction shall not begin until at least fifty percent of the proposed number of independent living units in the initial stage or phase have been reserved pursuant to executed contracts and at least ten percent of the entrance fees required by those contracts are held in escrow pursuant to this chapter. However, the requirements of this subsection may be waived by the commissioner by rule or order upon a showing of good cause.

For purposes of this subsection, "*good cause*" includes, but is not limited to, evidence of the following:

- a. Secured financing adequate in an amount and term to complete the project.
- b. Cash reserves adequate in an amount to operate the facility for twenty-four months based upon reasonable projections of income and expenses.
- c. Creation of an escrow account in which a resident's entrance fee or purchase price will be deposited, if the terms of the escrow agreement provide reasonable protection from loss until at least fifty percent of the proposed number of independent living units in the initial stage or phase have been reserved.

4. *Escrow requirements.* Unless conditions for the release of escrowed funds set forth in this section have already been met, the provider shall establish an interest-bearing escrow account at a state or federally regulated financial institution located within this state to receive any deposits or entrance fees or portions of deposits or fees for a living unit which has not been previously occupied by a resident for which an entry fee arrangement is used. The escrow account agreement shall be entered into between the financial institution and the provider with the financial institution as the escrow agent and as a fiduciary for the resident or prospective resident. The agreement shall state that the purpose of the escrow account is to protect the resident or prospective resident and that the funds deposited shall be kept and maintained in an account separate and apart from the provider's business accounts.

5. *Release of escrowed funds.* Funds held in escrow shall be released only as follows:

- a. If the provider fails to meet the requirements for release of funds held in escrow pursuant to this section within a time period specified in the escrow agreement, which shall not exceed thirty-six months, these funds shall be returned by the escrow agent to the persons who have made payment to the provider.
- b. Upon notice from the provider that a resident is entitled to a refund, the escrow agent shall refund the amount directly to the resident. The amount of the refund shall be included in the provider's notice to the escrow agent and shall be determined in compliance with this chapter and any applicable terms of the resident's contract.
- c. Except as provided by paragraphs "*a*" and "*b*", amounts held in escrow shall not be released unless at least one of the following conditions has been satisfied:

(1) The facility has a minimum of fifty percent of the units reserved for which the provider is charging an entrance fee and the aggregate amount of the entrance fees received by or pledged to the provider, plus anticipated proceeds from any long-term financing commitment, plus funds from all other sources in the actual possession of the provider, equal not less than ninety percent of the aggregate cost of constructing or purchasing, equipping, and furnishing the facility.

(2) The resident has moved into the living unit, the cancellation period required by section 523D.6, subsection 2, has expired, construction of the facility or the portion of the facility under construction is complete, the facility has been adequately equipped and furnished, a certificate of occupancy or the equivalent has been issued by the appropriate local jurisdiction, and the provider has been issued all the appropriate licenses or permits needed to operate the facility and provide all of the promised services.

d. Upon receipt by the escrow agent of a request by the provider for the release of these escrowed funds, the escrow agent shall approve release of the funds within five working days unless the escrow agent finds that the requirements of this section have not been met and notifies the provider of the basis for this finding. The request for release of the escrowed funds shall be accompanied by any documentation the escrow agent requires.

6. *Retention of records.* The provider shall maintain information required by this section for at least five years. The information shall be made available for inspection during normal business hours.

89 Acts, ch 217, § 5; 91 Acts, ch 205, § 14; 92 Acts, ch 1078, § 11; 93 Acts, ch 60, §12; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §3744

523D.6 Contracts.

1. *Disclosure.* In addition to any other provisions prescribed by rules adopted under this chapter, each contract providing for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services by a provider shall be written in nontechnical language easily understood by a lay person and shall include all of the following:

a. The name and business address of the provider.

b. The name and address of the facility or facilities.

c. The identification of the living unit which the prospective resident will occupy.

d. A description of the total consideration paid by the resident, including the value of all property transferred.

e. A list of all of the continuing care or senior adult congregate living services which are to be provided by the provider to each resident. The list shall clearly identify the manner in which continuing care or senior adult congregate living services will be provided, including a statement whether the items will be provided for a designated time period or for life, and shall indicate which continuing care and senior adult congregate living services, if any, will be provided through an affiliate or third party. The description of any service charges or fees shall, in the event of multiple residents, be provided on an individual basis and shall include a description of any additional charges that will be assessed for occupancy by more than one resident.

f. A statement of the policy of the facility with regard to any health or financial conditions upon which the provider may require the resident to relinquish the resident's space in the designated facility.

g. A statement of the policy of the facility with regard to the health and financial conditions required for a person to continue as a resident.

h. A statement of the policy of the facility with regard to the conditions under which the resident is permitted to remain in the facility in the event of financial difficulties affecting the resident.

i. A statement of the terms concerning the entry of a person to the living unit and the consequences if a person does not meet the requirements for entry.

j. A statement of the policy of the facility with regard to changes in accommodations and a description of the procedures to be followed by the provider when the provider temporarily or permanently changes the resident's accommodations within the facility, transfers the resident from one level of care to another, or transfers the resident to another health facility.

k. A description in clear and understandable language, in at least ten-point type, of the terms governing the refund of any portion of the entrance fee in the event of discharge by the provider, or cancellation by the

resident, and a statement that the provider shall not dismiss or discharge a resident from a facility prior to the expiration of a resident contract without just cause and sixty days written notice of intent to cancel. The notice of dismissal or discharge shall only be given upon a good faith determination that just cause exists, and the notice shall be given in writing, signed by the medical director, if any, and the administrator of the facility. In an emergency situation only such notice as is reasonable under the circumstances is required.

l. A description in clear and understandable language, in at least ten-point type, whether monthly fees, if charged, are subject to periodic increases.

m. A description of the facility's policies and procedures for handling grievances between the provider and residents.

n. A statement that residents living in the facility have the right of self-organization.

o. A statement that a prospective resident or resident shall be given the opportunity to appoint a personal representative in the prospective resident's or resident's contract. The personal representative shall receive copies of the contract and all notices, disclosures, or forms required by this chapter to be delivered to a prospective resident or resident. A personal representative appointed under this section has no legal authority to make any decision for the prospective resident or resident appointing the person to be a personal representative. The personal representative may advise the prospective resident or resident as to the materials provided. A personal representative shall not be affiliated or associated with a provider or any person identified in section 523D.3, subsection 1, paragraph "b" or "c", and shall not be a prospective resident or resident.

p. A statement that if a resident dies or through illness, injury, or incapacity is precluded from becoming a resident under the terms of the contract before occupying the living unit, the contract is automatically rescinded and the resident or the resident's legal representative shall receive a full refund of all payments of money or transferred property to the facility, except those costs specifically incurred by the facility at the request of the resident and set forth in writing in a separate addendum, signed by both parties to the contract.

q. A statement that a resident has the right to rescind a contract for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services, without penalty or forfeiture, within three business days of the date the contract was executed or within thirty days after the date the resident received the disclosure statement required by section 523D.3, whichever is later.

2. *Cancellation.* The contract required by this section shall state the terms under which the contract can be canceled by the provider or the resident, including a statement of the refund rights of a resident, and shall include a completed, easily detachable form in duplicate, captioned "**Notice of Cancellation**", as an attachment, in ten-point boldface type, containing the following information and statements in substantially the following form and language: NOTICE OF CANCELLATION Date contract was executed. Date disclosure statement was provided to resident.

You may rescind and cancel your contract, without any penalty or obligation, within three business days of the date the contract was executed or within thirty days after the date you received the disclosure statement required by Iowa Code section 523D.3, whichever is later. You are not required to move into the facility before the expiration of this cancellation period. However, if you do, the provider may retain the reasonable value of care and services actually provided to you, the resident, prior to your vacating the provider's facility. If you cancel this contract and you have already moved into the provider's facility, you must vacate your living unit within ten days after receipt by the provider of your cancellation notice.

If you cancel this contract, any payments of money or transfers of property you made to the provider must be returned as soon as reasonably possible by the provider following receipt by the provider of your cancellation notice, and any security interest arising out of the transaction is canceled, except that, as stated above, the

provider may retain the reasonable value of care and services actually provided to you prior to your vacating the provider's facility.

To cancel this contract, mail by certified mail or hand deliver a signed and dated copy of this cancellation notice or any other written notice clearly indicating your intent to cancel the contract, or send a telegram, to (name of provider) at (address of provider's place of business). Your cancellation is effective upon mailing by certified mail, when transmitted by telegraph, or when actual notice is given to the provider, whichever is earlier.

I hereby cancel this contract. (Date) (Resident's signature)

89 Acts, ch 217, § 6; 90 Acts, ch 1168, § 55; 90 Acts, ch 1233, § 34; 91 Acts, ch 205, § 15; 92 Acts, ch 1163, § 102

523D.7 Civil liability.

1. A provider is liable to the person contracting for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services for damages and repayment of all fees paid to the provider, facility, or person violating this chapter, less the reasonable value of care and lodging provided to the resident by or on whose behalf the contract for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services was entered into prior to discovery of the violation, misstatement, or omission, or the time the violation, misstatement, or omission should reasonably have been discovered, together with interest at the legal rate for judgments and court costs and reasonable attorney fees, if the provider does any of the following:

a. Enters into a contract to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services at a facility without having first delivered a disclosure statement meeting the requirements of this chapter to the person contracting for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services and to the person's personal representative if one is appointed by the person.

b. Enters into a contract to provide continuing care or senior adult congregate living services at a facility with a person who has relied on a disclosure statement which contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading.

2. Liability under this section exists regardless of whether or not the provider or person liable had actual knowledge of the misstatement or omission.

3. A person shall not file or maintain an action under this section if the person, before filing the action, received an offer to refund, payable upon acceptance, all amounts paid the provider, facility, or person violating this chapter, together with interest from the date of payment, less the reasonable value of care and lodging provided prior to receipt of the offer, and the person failed to accept the offer within thirty days of its receipt. At the time a provider makes a written offer of refund, the provider shall file a copy with the division of insurance. The refund offer shall refer to the provisions of this section.

4. An action shall not be maintained to enforce a liability created under this chapter unless brought before the expiration of six years after the execution of the contract for continuing care or senior adult congregate living services which gave rise to the violation.

5. Except as expressly provided in this chapter, civil liability in favor of a private party shall not arise against a person, by implication, from or as a result of the violation of this chapter. This chapter does not limit a liability which may exist by virtue of any other statute or under common law if this chapter were not in effect.

89 Acts, ch 217, §7

523D.8 Criminal penalties.

1. A person who violates a provision of this chapter or a rule adopted or order entered pursuant to this chapter commits a fraudulent practice as provided in chapter 714.
2. This chapter does not limit the power of the state to punish any person for any conduct which constitutes a crime under any other statute.

89 Acts, ch 217, §8; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §45

523D.9 Initial filing. Repealed by 2004 Acts, ch 1104, § 51.

523D.10 Rules.

The division of insurance may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A as necessary and appropriate to implement this chapter, and may make further recommendations to the general assembly for the protection of residents and prospective residents of facilities under this chapter.

89 Acts, ch 217, §10; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §46

523D.11 Reserved.

523D.12 Investigations.

The commissioner may, for the purpose of discovering or investigating violations of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant to this chapter do any or all of the following:

1. Investigate the business and examine the books, accounts, records, and files used by a provider. With the exception of an examination involving new construction, an examination involving a complaint by a resident or a prospective resident or where good cause exists for the lack of prior notice, as determined by the commissioner, the division of insurance shall provide at least seven days' prior notice to the facility before conducting an on-site examination.
2. Administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, receive evidence, and require the production of documents and records in connection with an investigation or proceeding being conducted pursuant to this chapter.
3. Apply to the district court for issuance of an order requiring a person's appearance before the commissioner. The person may also be required to produce documentary evidence germane to the subject of the investigation. Failure to obey a court order under this section constitutes contempt of court.

91 Acts, ch 205, §16; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §4749

523D.13 Compliance summary orders.

1. Upon the commissioner's determination that a provider has engaged, is engaging, or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter or a rule adopted pursuant to this chapter, the commissioner may issue a summary order directing the provider to cease and desist from engaging in the act or practice resulting in the violation or to take other affirmative action as in the judgment of the commissioner is necessary to comply with the requirements of this chapter.

2. If a hearing is not timely requested, the summary order becomes final by operation of law. The order shall remain effective from the date of issuance until the date the order becomes final by operation of law or is overturned by a presiding officer or court following a request for hearing. A person who has been issued a summary order under this section may contest it by filing a request for a contested case proceeding as provided in chapter 17A and in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner. However, the person shall have at least thirty days from the date that the order is issued in order to file the request. Section 17A.18A is inapplicable to a summary order issued under this section.

3. A person violating a summary order issued under this section shall be deemed in contempt of that order. The commissioner may petition the district court to enforce the order as certified by the commissioner. The district court shall adjudge the person in contempt of the order if the court finds after hearing that the person is not in compliance with the order. The court shall assess a civil penalty against the person in an amount not less than three thousand dollars but not greater than ten thousand dollars per violation, and may issue further orders as it deems appropriate.

91 Acts, ch 205, §17; 2000 Acts, ch 1147, §32

523D.14 Injunctions.

The commissioner may petition the district court in any county of the state for an injunction to restrain a person subject to this chapter and any agents, employees, or associates of the person from engaging in conduct or practices in violation of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant to this chapter. In a proceeding for an injunction, the commissioner may apply to the court for the issuance of a subpoena to require the appearance of a defendant and the defendant's agents and any documents, books, or records germane to the hearing upon the petition for an injunction. Upon proof of any of the violations described in the petition for injunction, the court may grant the injunction.

91 Acts, ch 205, §18; 2004 Acts, ch 1104, §50